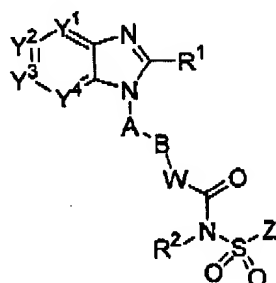


This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended) A compound of the following formula:



(I)

or the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein

one of Y<sup>1</sup>, Y<sup>2</sup>, Y<sup>3</sup> and Y<sup>4</sup> is N and the others are independently selected from N, CH or C(L);

R<sup>1</sup> is H, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkoxy, halo-substituted C<sub>1-8</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl-S(O)<sub>m</sub>-, Q<sup>1</sup>-, pyrrolidinyl, piperidyl, oxopyrrolidinyl, oxopiperidyl, amino, mono- or di-(C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl)amino, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl-C(=O)-N(R<sup>3</sup>)- or C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl-S(O)<sub>m</sub>-N(R<sup>3</sup>)-, wherein said C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl and C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl are optionally substituted with halo, C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl, hydroxy, oxo, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy-, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl-S(O)<sub>m</sub>-, C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkyl-, cyano, indanyl, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthyl, 1,2-dihydronaphthyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperidyl, oxopyrrolidinyl, oxopiperidyl, Q<sup>1</sup>-, Q<sup>1</sup>-C(=O)-, Q<sup>1</sup>-O-, Q<sup>1</sup>-S(O)<sub>m</sub>-, Q<sup>1</sup>-C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl-O-, Q<sup>1</sup>-C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl-S(O)<sub>m</sub>-, Q<sup>1</sup>-C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl-C(O)-N(R<sup>3</sup>)-, Q<sup>1</sup>-C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl-N(R<sup>3</sup>)- or C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl-C(O)-N(R<sup>3</sup>)-;

Q<sup>1</sup> is a 5-12 membered monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic ring optionally containing up to 4 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S, and is optionally substituted with halo, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, hydroxy, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylthio, nitro, amino, mono- or di-(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)amino, cyano, HO-C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy-

C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylsulfonyl, aminosulfonyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkylC(=O)-, HO(O=)C-, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl-O(O=)C-, R<sup>3</sup>N(R<sup>4</sup>)C(=O)-, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylsulfonylamino, C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkyl, R<sup>3</sup>C(=O)N(R<sup>4</sup>)- or NH<sub>2</sub>(HN=)C-;

A is a 5-6 membered monocyclic aromatic ring optionally containing up to 3 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S, wherein said 5-6 membered monocyclic aromatic ring is optionally substituted with up to 3 substituents selected from halo, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, hydroxy, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkylthio, nitro, amino, mono- or di-(C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl)amino, cyano, HO-C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy-C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylsulfonyl, aminosulfonyl, acetyl, R<sup>3</sup>N(R<sup>4</sup>)C(=O)-, HO(O=)C-, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl-O(O=)C-, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylsulfonylamino, C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkyl, R<sup>3</sup>C(=O)N(R<sup>4</sup>)- and NH<sub>2</sub>(HN=)C-;

B is halo-substituted C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylene, C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkylene, C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenylene, C<sub>2-6</sub> alkynylene, -O-C<sub>1-5</sub> alkylene, C<sub>1-2</sub> alkylene-O-C<sub>1-2</sub> alkylene or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylene optionally substituted with an oxo group or C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl;

W is NH, N-C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, O, S, N-OR<sup>5</sup> or a covalent bond ;

R<sup>2</sup> is H, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, OH or C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy;

Z is a 5-12 membered monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic ring optionally containing up to 3 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S, wherein said 5-12 membered monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic ring is optionally substituted with halo, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkynyl, hydroxy, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylthio, nitro, amino, mono- or di-(C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl)amino, cyano, HO-C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy-C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylsulfonyl, aminosulfonyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkylC(=O)-, R<sup>3</sup>C(=O)N(R<sup>4</sup>)-, HO(O=)C-, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl-O(O=)C-, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylsulfonylamino, C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkyl, NH<sub>2</sub>(HN=)C-, Q<sup>2</sup>-S(O)m-, Q<sup>2</sup>-O-, Q<sup>2</sup>-N(R<sup>3</sup>)- or Q<sup>2</sup>- ;

L is halo, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, hydroxy, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylthio, nitro, amino, mono- or di-(C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl)amino, cyano, HO-C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy-C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylsulfonyl, aminosulfonyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkylC(=O)-, HO(O=)C-, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl-O(O=)C-, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylsulfonylamino, C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkyl, R<sup>3</sup>C(=O)N(R<sup>4</sup>)-, NH<sub>2</sub>(HN=)C-,

$R^3N(R^4)C(=O)-$ ,  $R^3N(R^4)S(O)m-$ ,  $Q^2-$ ,  $Q^2-C(=O)-$ ,  $Q^2-O-$ ,  $Q^2-C_{1-4}alkyl-O-$ , or two adjacent L groups are optionally joined together to form an alkylene chain having 3 or 4 members in which one or two (non-adjacent) carbon atoms are optionally replaced by oxygen atoms;

m is 0, 1 or 2;

$R^3$  and  $R^4$  are independently selected from H and  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl ;

$R^5$  is H,  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl,  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl-(O=C)- or  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl-O-(O=C)- ; and

$Q^2$  is a 5-12 membered monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic ring, or a 5-12 membered tricyclic ring optionally containing up to 3 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S, wherein said 5-12 membered monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic ring is optionally substituted with halo,  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl, halo-substituted  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl,  ~~$C_{1-4}$~~   $C_{2-4}$  alkenyl,  ~~$C_{1-4}$~~   $C_{2-4}$  alkynyl, hydroxy,  $C_{1-4}$  alkoxy, halo-substituted  ~~$C_{1-4}$  alkoxy~~  $C_{1-4}$  alkoxy,  $C_{1-4}$  alkylthio, nitro, amino, mono- or di-( $C_{1-4}$  alkyl)amino, cyano, HO- $C_{1-4}$  alkyl,  $C_{1-4}$  alkoxy- $C_{1-4}$ alkyl,  $C_{1-4}$  alkylsulfonyl, aminosulfonyl,  $C_{1-4}alkyl-(O=C)-$ ,  $R^3(R^4)C(=O)N-$ , HO(O=C)-,  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl-O(O=C)-,  $C_{1-4}$  alkylsulfonylamino,  $C_{3-7}$  cycloalkyl,  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl-C(=O)NH- or  $NH_2(HN=)C-$ .

2. (currently amended) A compound according to Claim 1, wherein

one of  $Y^1$ ,  $Y^2$ ,  $Y^3$ , and  $Y^4$  is N and the others are independently selected from N, CH and C(L);

$R^1$  is H,  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl,  $C_{2-8}$  alkenyl,  $C_{2-8}$  alkynyl,  $C_{3-7}$  cycloalkyl,  $C_{1-8}$  alkoxy, halo-substituted  $C_{1-8}$  alkoxy,  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl-S(O)m-,  $Q^1-$ , pyrrolidiny, piperidyl, oxopyrrolidiny, oxopiperidyl, amino, mono- or di-( $C_{1-8}$  alkyl)amino,  $C_{1-4}alkyl-C(=O)-N(R^3)-$  or  $C_{1-4}alkyl-S(O)m-N(R^3)-$ , wherein said  $C_{1-8}$  alkyl,  $C_{2-8}$  alkenyl and  $C_{2-8}$  alkynyl are optionally substituted with halo,  $C_{1-3}$  alkyl, hydroxy, oxo,  $C_{1-4}$  alkoxy-,  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl-S(O)m-,  $C_{3-7}$  cycloalkyl-, cyano, indanyl, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthyl, 1,2-dihydronaphthyl, pyrrolidiny, piperidyl, oxopyrrolidiny, oxopiperidyl,  $Q^1-$ ,  $Q^1-C(=O)-$ ,  $Q^1-O-$ ,  $Q^1-S(O)m-$ ,  $Q^1-C_{1-4}$  alkyl-O-,  $Q^1-C_{1-4}$  alkyl-S(O)m-,  $Q^1-C_{1-4}alkyl-C(=O)-N(R^3)-$ , or  $C_{1-4}alkyl-C(=O)-N(R^3)-$ ;

Q<sup>1</sup> is a 5-12 membered monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic ring optionally containing up to 4 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S, and is optionally substituted with halo, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, hydroxy, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylthio, nitro, amino, mono- or di-(C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl)amino, cyano, HO-C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy-C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylsulfonyl, aminosulfonyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylC(=O)-, HO(O=)C-, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl-O(O=)C-, R<sup>3</sup>N(R<sup>4</sup>)C(=O)-, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylsulfonylamino, C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkyl, R<sup>3</sup>C(=O)N(R<sup>4</sup>)- or NH<sub>2</sub>(HN=)C-;

A is a 5-6 membered monocyclic aromatic ring optionally containing up to 2 heteroatoms selected from O, N, and S, wherein said 5-6 membered monocyclic aromatic ring is optionally substituted with up to 2 substituents selected from halo, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, hydroxy, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy and halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy;

B is C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkylene or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylene optionally substituted with an oxo group or C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl;

W is NH, N-C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, O or N-OH;

R<sup>2</sup> is H or C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl;

Z is a 5-12 membered monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic ring optionally containing up to 3 heteroatoms selected from, N and S, wherein said 5-12 membered monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic ring is optionally substituted with halo, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkenyl, hydroxy, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, nitro, amino, cyano, HO-C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylsulfonyl, aminosulfonyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylC(=O)-, R<sup>3</sup>C(=O)N(R<sup>4</sup>)-, HO(O=)C-, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl-O(O=)C-, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylsulfonylamino, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl-C(=O)NH-, Q<sup>2</sup>-S(O)m-, Q<sup>2</sup>-O-, Q<sup>2</sup>-N(R<sup>3</sup>)- or Q<sup>2</sup>-;

L is halo, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, hydroxy, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, mono- or di-(C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl)amino, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, cyano, HO-C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy-C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylsulfonyl, aminosulfonyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylC(=O)-, HO(O=)C-, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl-O(O=)C-, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylsulfonylamino, C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkyl, R<sup>3</sup>C(=O)N(R<sup>4</sup>)-, R<sup>3</sup>N(R<sup>4</sup>)C(=O)-, R<sup>3</sup>N(R<sup>4</sup>)S(O)m-, Q<sup>2</sup>-, Q<sup>2</sup>-C(=O)-, Q<sup>2</sup>-O-, Q<sup>2</sup>-C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl-O-, or two adjacent L groups are optionally joined together to form an alkylene chain having 3 or 4 members in which one or two (non-adjacent) carbon atoms are optionally replaced by oxygen atoms;

m is 0 or 2;

R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are independently selected from H and C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl; and

Q<sup>2</sup> is a 5-12 membered monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic ring, or a 8-12 membered tricyclic ring optionally containing up to 3 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S, wherein said 5-12 membered monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic ring is optionally substituted with halo, C<sub>1-4</sub>

alkyl, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, ~~G<sub>1-4</sub>~~ C<sub>2-4</sub> alkenyl, ~~G<sub>1-4</sub>~~ C<sub>2-4</sub> alkynyl, hydroxy, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylthio, mono- or di-(C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl)amino, cyano,

~~H or C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylsulfonyl, aminosulfonyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl-~~

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m is 0 or 2;

R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are independently selected from H and C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl; and

Q<sup>2</sup> is a 5-12 membered monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic ring, or a 8-12 membered tricyclic ring optionally containing up to 3 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S, wherein said 5-12 membered monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic ring is optionally substituted with halo, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, ~~C<sub>1-4</sub>~~ C<sub>2-4</sub> alkenyl, ~~C<sub>1-4</sub>~~ C<sub>2-4</sub> alkynyl, hydroxy, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylthio, mono- or di-(C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl)amino, cyano, HO-C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy-C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylsulfonyl, aminosulfonyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl-(O=)C-, R<sup>3</sup>(R<sup>4</sup>)C(=O)N-, HO(O=)C-, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl-O(O=)C-, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylsulfonylamino, C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkyl or C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl-C(=O)NH-.

3. (currently amended) A compound according to Claim 2, wherein

one of Y<sup>1</sup>, Y<sup>2</sup>, Y<sup>3</sup>, and Y<sup>4</sup> is N and the others are independently selected from N, CH and C(L);

R<sup>1</sup> is H, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkyl, Q<sup>1</sup>-, pyrrolidinyl, piperidyl, oxopyrrolidinyl, oxopiperidyl, amino, mono- or di-(C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl)amino, wherein said C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl is optionally substituted with halo, ~~C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl~~ C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl, hydroxy, oxo, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy-, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl-S(O)<sub>m</sub>-, C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkyl-, cyano, indanyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperidyl, oxopyrrolidinyl, oxopiperidyl, Q<sup>1</sup>-, Q<sup>1</sup>-C(O)-, Q<sup>1</sup>-O-, Q<sup>1</sup>-S-, Q<sup>1</sup>-C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl-O-, or C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl-C(O)-N(R<sup>3</sup>)-;

Q<sup>1</sup> is a 5-12 membered monocyclic aromatic ring optionally containing up to 4 heteroatoms selected from N and S, and is optionally substituted with halo, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylsulfonyl and C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylC(=O)-;

A is 5-6 membered monocyclic aromatic ring optionally substituted with halo, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl or C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy;

B is C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkylene or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylene optionally substituted with an oxo group or C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl;

W is NH, N-C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, O or N-OH;

R<sup>2</sup> is H or C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl;

Z is 5-12 membered monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic ring optionally containing up to 3 heteroatoms selected from, N and S, wherein said 5-12 membered monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic ring is optionally substituted with halo, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, nitro, amino, cyano, R<sup>3</sup>C(=O)N(R<sup>4</sup>)-, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl-O(O=)C-, Q<sup>2</sup>-S(O)<sub>m</sub>-, Q<sup>2</sup>-O-, Q<sup>2</sup>-N(R<sup>3</sup>)- or Q<sup>2</sup>-;

L is halo, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, hydroxy, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, mono- or di-(C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl)amino, cyano, HO-C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylsulfonyl, aminosulfonyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylC(=O)-, HO(O=)C-, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl-O(O=)C-, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylsulfonylamino, C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkyl, R<sup>3</sup>C(=O)N(R<sup>4</sup>)-, R<sup>3</sup>N(R<sup>4</sup>)C(=O)-, R<sup>3</sup>N(R<sup>4</sup>)S(O)<sub>m</sub>-, Q<sup>2</sup>-, Q<sup>2</sup>-C(=O)-, Q<sup>2</sup>-O-, Q<sup>2</sup>-C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl-O-, or two adjacent L groups are optionally joined together to form an alkylene chain having 3 or 4 members in which one or two (non-adjacent) carbon atoms are optionally replaced by oxygen atoms;

m is 0 or 2;

R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are independently selected from H and C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl; and

Q<sup>2</sup> is a 5 or 6 membered monocyclic aromatic ring, or a 8-12 membered tricyclic ring containing up to 3 heteroatoms selected from N and S, wherein said 5 or 6 membered monocyclic aromatic ring is optionally substituted with halo.

4. (currently amended) A compound according to Claim 3, wherein

one of Y<sup>1</sup>, Y<sup>2</sup>, Y<sup>3</sup> and Y<sup>4</sup> is N and the others are independently selected from N, CH and C(L);

R<sup>1</sup> is H, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2-8</sub> alkynyl or C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkyl, wherein said C<sub>1-8</sub> alkyl is optionally substituted with halo, C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl, hydroxy, oxo, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy-, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl-S(O)<sub>m</sub>-, C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkyl-, cyano, indanyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperidyl, oxopyrrolidinyl, oxopiperidyl, Q<sup>1</sup>-, Q<sup>1</sup>-C(=O)-, Q<sup>1</sup>-O-, Q<sup>1</sup>-S-, Q<sup>1</sup>-C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl-O-, or C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl-C(O)-N(R<sup>3</sup>)-;

Q<sup>1</sup> is a 5 or 6 membered monocyclic aromatic ring optionally containing up to 4 heteroatoms selected from N and S;

A is 5-6 membered monocyclic aromatic ring system optionally substituted with halo or C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl;

B is ~~or~~ C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkylene or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylene optionally substituted with an oxo group or C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl;

W is NH, N-C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, O or N-OH;

R<sup>2</sup> is H or C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl;

Z is 5-12 membered monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic ring optionally containing up to 3 heteroatoms selected from N and S, wherein said 5-12 membered monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic ring is optionally substituted with halo, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, ~~C<sub>1-4</sub>~~ C<sub>2-4</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, nitro, amino, cyano, R<sup>3</sup>C(=O)N(R<sup>4</sup>)-, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl-O(O=)C-, Q<sup>2</sup>-S(O)<sub>m</sub>-, Q<sup>2</sup>-O-, Q<sup>2</sup>-N(R<sup>3</sup>)- or Q<sup>2</sup>-;

L is halo, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, hydroxy, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, cyano, HO-C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylsulfonyl, aminosulfonyl, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylC(=O), HO(O=)C-, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl-O(O=)C-, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylsulfonylamino, C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkyl, R<sup>3</sup>C(=O)NR<sup>4</sup>-, R<sup>3</sup>N(R<sup>4</sup>)C(=O)-, R<sup>3</sup>N(R<sup>4</sup>)S(O)<sub>m</sub>-, Q<sup>2</sup>-, Q<sup>2</sup>-C(=O)-, Q<sup>2</sup>-O-, Q<sup>2</sup>-C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl-O-, or two adjacent L groups are optionally joined together to form an alkylene chain having 3 or 4 members in which one or two (non-adjacent) carbon atoms are optionally replaced by oxygen atoms;

m is 0 or 2;

R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are independently selected from H and C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl; and

Q<sup>2</sup> is 5 or 6 membered monocyclic aromatic ring or a 8-12 membered tricyclic ring optionally containing 1 sulfur atom wherein said 5 or 6 membered monocyclic aromatic ring is optionally substituted with halo.

5. (currently amended) A compound according to Claim 4, wherein

one of Y<sup>1</sup>, Y<sup>2</sup>, Y<sup>3</sup> and Y<sup>4</sup> is N and the others are independently selected from N, CH and C(L);



R<sup>1</sup> is C<sub>1-5</sub> alkyl or C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkyl, wherein said C<sub>1-5</sub> alkyl is optionally substituted with C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl, hydroxy, oxo, pyrrolidinyl, piperidyl, oxopyrrolidinyl, oxopiperidyl, Q<sup>1</sup>-, or C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl-C(O)-N(H)-;

Q<sup>1</sup> is 5-12 membered monocyclic aromatic ring system optionally containing up to 2 heteroatoms selected from N and S,

A is 5-6 membered monocyclic aromatic ring system;

B is C<sub>1-3</sub> alkylene optionally substituted with C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl;

W is NH, N-C<sub>1-2</sub> alkyl or O;

R<sup>2</sup> is H;

Z is 5-12 membered monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic ring optionally containing up to 3 heteroatoms selected from N and S, wherein said 5-12 membered monocyclic aromatic ring is optionally substituted with halo, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, nitro, R<sup>3</sup>C(=O)N(R<sup>4</sup>)- or Q<sup>2</sup>-;

L is halo, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, hydroxy, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, halo-substituted C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, cyano, HO-C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, acetyl, R<sup>3</sup>N(R<sup>4</sup>)C(=O)-, R<sup>3</sup>N(R<sup>4</sup>)S(O)m-, Q<sup>2</sup>-, Q<sup>2</sup>-C(=O)-, or two adjacent L groups are joined together to form a methylenedioxy group;

R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are independently selected from H and C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl; and

Q<sup>2</sup> is 5 or 6 membered monocyclic aromatic ring system.

6. (currently amended) A compound according to Claim 5, wherein

one of Y<sup>1</sup>, Y<sup>2</sup>, Y<sup>3</sup> and Y<sup>4</sup> is N and the others are independently selected from N, CH and C-L;

R<sup>1</sup> is C<sub>1-5</sub> alkyl optionally substituted with C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl, hydroxy, oxo, 5 or 6 membered monocyclic aromatic ring, wherein said 5 or 6 membered monocyclic aromatic ring is containing 1 or 2 heteroatoms selected from N and S, or C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl-C(O)-N(R<sup>3</sup>)-;

A is phenyl;

B is C<sub>1-2</sub> alkylene optionally substituted with methyl;

W is NH, N-CH<sub>3</sub> or O;

R<sup>2</sup> is H;

Z is 5-10 membered monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic ring optionally containing up to 3 heteroatoms selected from N and S, wherein said 5-10 membered monocyclic aromatic ring is optionally substituted with chloro, bromo, methyl, nitro,  $\text{CH}_3\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{NH}-$ ,  $\text{tBuC}(=\text{O})\text{NH}-$  or phenyl; and  
L is chloro, methyl, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, methoxy, cyano, acetyl,  $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{NH}_2$ , trifluoromethyloxy, methanesulfonyl, or 1-hydroxy-1-methyl-ethyl, or two adjacent L groups are joined together to form a methylenedioxy group.

7. (currently amended) A compound according to Claim 6, wherein one of  $\text{Y}^1$ ,  $\text{Y}^2$ ,  $\text{Y}^3$  and  $\text{Y}^4$  is N and the others are independently selected from N, CH and  $\text{C}-\text{L}$ ;

$\text{R}^1$  is methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, neopentyl, thiazolyethyl methylamino, dimethylamino, pyrrolidinyl, pyridyl, or 1-acetylamino-1-methylethyl;

A is phenyl;

B is ethylene or propylene;

W is NH, N- $\text{CH}_3$  or O;

$\text{R}^2$  is H;

Z is phenyl, pyrazolyl, thiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, thienyl, naphthyl or benzothienyl, said phenyl, pyrazolyl, thiazolyl, thiadiazolyl and thienyl being optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from chloro, bromo, methyl, acetylamino, pivaloylamino, nitro and phenyl; and

L is chloro, methyl, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, methoxy, cyano, acetyl,  $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{NH}_2$ , trifluoromethyloxy, methanesulfonyl, or 1-hydroxy-1-methyl-ethyl, or two adjacent L groups are joined together to form a methylenedioxy group.

8. (currently amended) A compound according to Claim 7, wherein  $\text{Y}^1$ ,  $\text{Y}^2$ ,  $\text{Y}^3$  and  $\text{Y}^4$  are selected from the group consisting of

a)  $\text{Y}^1$  and  $\text{Y}^3$  are  $\text{C}(\text{L})$ ,  $\text{Y}^2$  is CH and  $\text{Y}^4$  is N;

b)  $\text{Y}^1$  is CH,  $\text{Y}^2$  and  $\text{Y}^3$  are  $\text{C}(\text{L})$  and  $\text{Y}^4$  is N;

c)  $\text{Y}^1$ ,  $\text{Y}^2$  and  $\text{Y}^3$  are  $\text{C}(\text{L})$  and  $\text{Y}^4$  is N;

- d) Y<sup>1</sup> and Y<sup>3</sup> are C(L), Y<sup>2</sup> is N and Y<sup>4</sup> is CH;  
e) ~~Y<sup>1</sup> is C(L) and Y<sup>2</sup>, Y<sup>3</sup> and Y<sup>4</sup> are CH;~~  
f) ~~Y<sup>1</sup>, Y<sup>3</sup> and Y<sup>4</sup> are CH, and Y<sup>2</sup> is C(L);~~  
g) ~~Y<sup>1</sup>, Y<sup>2</sup> and Y<sup>3</sup> are CH, and Y<sup>4</sup> is C(L);~~  
h) ~~Y<sup>1</sup> and Y<sup>2</sup> are C(L), and Y<sup>3</sup> and Y<sup>4</sup> are CH;~~  
i) ~~Y<sup>1</sup> and Y<sup>3</sup> are C(L), and Y<sup>2</sup> and Y<sup>4</sup> are CH;~~  
j) ~~Y<sup>1</sup> and Y<sup>4</sup> are CH, and Y<sup>2</sup> and Y<sup>3</sup> are C(L);~~  
k) Y<sup>1</sup> and Y<sup>2</sup> are CH, Y<sup>3</sup> is C(L) and Y<sup>4</sup> is N;  
l) Y<sup>1</sup> and Y<sup>3</sup> are CH, Y<sup>2</sup> is C(L) and Y<sup>4</sup> is N;  
m) ~~Y<sup>1</sup>, Y<sup>2</sup>, Y<sup>3</sup> and Y<sup>4</sup> are CH;~~  
n) Y<sup>1</sup> and Y<sup>2</sup> are C(L), Y<sup>3</sup> is CH and Y<sup>4</sup> is N;  
o) ~~Y<sup>1</sup>, Y<sup>2</sup> and Y<sup>4</sup> are CH, and Y<sup>3</sup> is C(L);~~  
p) Y<sup>1</sup> and Y<sup>2</sup> are C(L), Y<sup>3</sup> is N and Y<sup>4</sup> is CH;  
q) ~~Y<sup>1</sup> and Y<sup>3</sup> are C(L), and Y<sup>2</sup> and Y<sup>4</sup> are N;~~  
r) Y<sup>1</sup> is C(L), Y<sup>2</sup> and Y<sup>3</sup> are CH, and Y<sup>4</sup> is N; and  
s) Y<sup>2</sup> is C(L), Y<sup>1</sup> and Y<sup>3</sup> are CH, and Y<sup>4</sup> is N;

R<sup>1</sup> is methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, neopentyl, thiazolylethyl  
methylamino, dimethylamino, pyrrolidinyl, pyridyl, or 1-acetylamino-1-methylethyl;

A is phenyl;

B is ethylene or propylene;

W is NH, N-CH<sub>3</sub> or O;

R<sup>2</sup> is H;

Z is phenyl, pyrazolyl, thiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, thienyl, naphthyl or benzothienyl, said phenyl,  
pyrazolyl, thiazolyl, thiadiazolyl and thienyl being optionally substituted with one to three  
substituents independently selected from chloro, bromo, methyl, acetylamino, pivaloylamino,  
nitro and phenyl; and

L is chloro, methyl, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, methoxy, cyano, acetyl, -C(=O)NH<sub>2</sub>,  
trifluoromethyloxy, methanesulfonyl, or 1-hydroxy-1-methyl-ethyl, or two adjacent L groups  
are joined together to form a methylenedioxy group.

9. (currently amended) A compound according to Claim 8, wherein

Y<sup>1</sup>, Y<sup>2</sup>, Y<sup>3</sup> and Y<sup>4</sup> are selected from the group consisting of

- a) Y<sup>1</sup> and Y<sup>3</sup> are C(L), Y<sup>2</sup> is CH and Y<sup>4</sup> is N;
- b) Y<sup>1</sup> is CH, Y<sup>2</sup> and Y<sup>3</sup> are C(L) and Y<sup>4</sup> is N;
- c) Y<sup>1</sup>, Y<sup>2</sup> and Y<sup>3</sup> are C(L) and Y<sup>4</sup> is N; and
- d) Y<sup>1</sup> and Y<sup>3</sup> are C(L), Y<sup>2</sup> is N and Y<sup>4</sup> is CH;
- e) ~~Y<sup>1</sup> is C(L) and Y<sup>2</sup>, Y<sup>3</sup> and Y<sup>4</sup> are CH;~~
- f) ~~Y<sup>1</sup>, Y<sup>3</sup> and Y<sup>4</sup> are CH, and Y<sup>2</sup> is C(L);~~
- g) ~~Y<sup>1</sup>, Y<sup>2</sup> and Y<sup>3</sup> are CH, and Y<sup>4</sup> is C(L);~~
- h) ~~Y<sup>1</sup> and Y<sup>2</sup> are C(L), and Y<sup>3</sup> and Y<sup>4</sup> are CH;~~
- i) ~~Y<sup>1</sup> and Y<sup>3</sup> are C(L), and Y<sup>2</sup> and Y<sup>4</sup> are CH; and~~
- j) ~~Y<sup>1</sup> and Y<sup>4</sup> are CH, and Y<sup>2</sup> and Y<sup>3</sup> are C(L);~~

R<sup>1</sup> is methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, neopentyl, thiazolyethyl  
methylamino, dimethylamino, pyrrolidinyl, pyridyl, or 1-acetylamino-1-methylethyl;

A is phenyl;

B is ethylene or propylene;

W is NH, N-CH<sub>3</sub> or O;

R<sup>2</sup> is H;

Z is phenyl, pyrazolyl, thiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, thienyl, naphthyl or benzothienyl, said phenyl,  
pyrazolyl, thiazolyl, thiadiazolyl and thienyl being optionally substituted with one to three  
substituents independently selected from chloro, bromo, methyl, acetylamino, pivaloylamino,  
nitro and phenyl; and

L is chloro, methyl, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, methoxy, cyano, acetyl, -C(=O)NH<sub>2</sub>,  
trifluoromethoxy, methanesulfonyl, or 1-hydroxy-1-methyl-ethyl, or two adjacent L groups  
are joined together to form a methylenedioxy group.

10. (currently amended) A compound according to Claim 1 selected from

3-(4-{2-[(5-chloro-1,3-dimethyl-1h-pyrazol-4-yl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]ethyl}  
phenyl)-2-ethyl-5,7-dimethyl-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine;

3-(4-{2-[(4-(2,4-dimethyl-1,3-thiazol-5-yl)sulfonyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)ethyl}phenyl)-2-ethyl-5,7-dimethyl-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
N-[5-({2-[(4-(2-ethyl-5,7-dimethyl-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridin-3-yl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)carbonyl)amino]sulfonyl)-1,3,4-thiadiazol-2-yl]acetamide;  
~~6-ethyl-5-(4-{2-[(4-(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino)carbonyl}amino)ethyl}phenyl)-5*H*-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-*f*]benzimidazole;~~  
~~6-chloro-5-cyano-2-ethyl-1-(4-{2-[(4-(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino)carbonyl}amino)ethyl}phenyl)-1*H*-benzimidazole;~~  
2-ethyl-5,7-dimethyl-3-(4-{2-[methyl({(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)ethyl}phenyl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
2-ethyl-5,7-dimethyl-3-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino)carbonyl}amino)propyl}phenyl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
2-[4-(2-ethyl-5,7-dimethyl-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridin-3-yl)phenyl]-1-methylethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;  
5,7-dimethyl-3-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino)carbonyl}amino)ethyl}phenyl)-2-propyl-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
2-isopropyl-5,7-dimethyl-3-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino)carbonyl}amino)ethyl}phenyl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
2-butyl-5,7-dimethyl-3-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino)carbonyl}amino)ethyl}phenyl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
2-isobutyl-5,7-dimethyl-3-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino)carbonyl}amino)ethyl}phenyl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
5,7-dimethyl-3-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino)carbonyl}amino)ethyl}phenyl)-2-neopentyl-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
5,7-dimethyl-3-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino)carbonyl}amino)ethyl}phenyl)-2-[2-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)ethyl]-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
3-{4-[2-({(4-biphenyl)sulfonyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)ethyl}phenyl)-2-ethyl-5,7-dimethyl-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
2-ethyl-5,7-dimethyl-3-{4-[2-({(1-naphthyl)sulfonyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)ethyl}phenyl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;

2-ethyl-5,7-dimethyl-3-{4-[2-({[(2-naphthylsulfonyl)amino]carbonyl)amino]ethyl}phenyl)-  
3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
2-ethyl-5,7-dimethyl-3-(4-{2-[({[(2-thienyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]ethyl}phenyl)-  
3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
3-(4-{2-[({[(5-chloro-2-thienyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]ethyl}phenyl)-2-ethyl-5,7-  
dimethyl-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
3-(4-{2-[({[(4,5-dichloro-2-thienyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]ethyl}phenyl)-2-ethyl-  
5,7-dimethyl-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
3-(4-{2-[({[(1-benzothien-2-yl)sulfonyl]amino]carbonyl)amino]ethyl}phenyl)-2-ethyl-5,7-  
dimethyl-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
3-(4-{2-[({[(2-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]ethyl}phenyl)-2-ethyl-5,7-  
dimethyl-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
2-ethyl-5,6-dimethyl-3-(4-{2-[({[(4-  
methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]ethyl}phenyl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
5,6-dichloro-2-ethyl-3-(4-{2-[({[(4-  
methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]ethyl}phenyl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
5-chloro-2-ethyl-7-methyl-3-(4-{2-[({[(4-  
methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]ethyl}phenyl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
6-cyano-2-ethyl-5,7-dimethyl-3-(4-{2-[({[(4-  
methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]ethyl}phenyl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
2-ethyl-4,6-dimethyl-1-(4-{2-[({[(4-  
methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]ethyl}phenyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]pyridine;  
4-methyl-2-ethyl-3-(4-{2-[({[(4-  
methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]ethyl}phenyl)benzimidazole;  
7-chloro-2-ethyl-3-(4-{2-[({[(4-  
methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]ethyl}phenyl)benzimidazole;  
5-methoxy-2-ethyl-3-(4-{2-[({[(4-  
methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]ethyl}phenyl)benzimidazole;  
5-acetyl-2-ethyl-3-(4-{2-[({[(4-  
methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]ethyl}phenyl)benzimidazole;

5-cyano-2-ethyl-1-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino}ethyl)phenyl)-1H-benzimidazole;  
2-ethyl-5-hydroxy-1-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino}ethyl)phenyl)-1H-benzimidazole;  
2-ethyl-4,5-dimethyl-1-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino}ethyl)phenyl)-1H-benzimidazole;  
4,6-dimethyl-2-ethyl-3-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino}ethyl)phenyl)-1H-benzimidazole;  
5,6-dimethyl-1-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino}ethyl)phenyl)-1H-benzimidazole;  
5,6-dichloro-2-ethyl-1-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino}ethyl)phenyl)-1H-benzimidazole;  
2-[4-(5,6-dichloro-2-ethyl-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl)phenyl]ethyl-(4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;  
6-chloro-5-trifluoromethyl-1-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino}ethyl)phenyl)-1H-benzimidazole;  
4-(6-chloro-2-ethyl-5-trifluoromethyl-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl)phenethyl-(4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;  
5-chloro-6-methyl-1-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino}ethyl)phenyl)-1H-benzimidazole;  
6-chloro-2-ethyl-1-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino}ethyl)phenyl)-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxamide;  
2-ethyl-3-[4-[2-[(3-hydroxy(oxido)amino)phenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl]amino}ethyl)phenyl]-5,7-dimethyl-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine;  
3-(4-{2-[(4-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino}ethyl)phenyl)-2-ethyl-5,7-dimethyl-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine;  
n-[4-[(2-[4-(2-ethyl-5,7-dimethyl-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-3-yl)phenyl]ethyl)amino}carbonyl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]-2,2-dimethylpropanamide;

3-(4-{2-[(2-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]ethyl}phenyl)-2-ethyl-5,7-dimethyl-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;

3-(4-{2-[(3-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]ethyl}phenyl)-2-ethyl-5,7-dimethyl-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;

3-(4-{2-[(5-chloro-2-thienyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]ethyl}phenyl)-2-ethyl-5,7-dimethyl-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;

3-(4-{2-[(5-bromo-2-thienyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]ethyl}phenyl)-2-ethyl-5,7-dimethyl-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;

3-(4-{2-[(2-bromophenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]ethyl}phenyl)-2-ethyl-5,7-dimethyl-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;

3-{4-[2-[(4-chloro-3-nitrophenyl)sulfonyl]amino]carbonyl]amino}ethyl}phenyl)-2-ethyl-5,7-dimethyl-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;

2-[4-(2-ethyl-4,6-dimethyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]pyridin-1-yl)phenyl]ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;

2-{4-[5,7-dimethyl-2-(methylamino)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridin-3-yl]phenyl}ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;

*N*-{[(2-{4-[5,7-dimethyl-2-(methylamino)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridin-3-yl]phenyl}ethyl)amino]carbonyl}-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

*N*-{[(2-{4-[2-ethyl-5-(1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl)amino]carbonyl}-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

2-ethyl-4,6-dimethyl-1-{4-[2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino]carbonyl]amino}ethyl}phenyl)-1*H*-benzimidazole-5-carboxamide;

2-{4-[6-chloro-2-ethyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl (2-chlorophenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;

2-{5-[6-chloro-2-ethyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]-2-pyridinyl}ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;

2-{4-[6-chloro-2-ethyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl (5-methyl-2-pyridinyl)sulfonylcarbamate;

2-{4-[6-chloro-2-(1*H*-pyrazol-3-yl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;



~~2-{4-[6-chloro-2-(4-pyridinyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;~~

~~2-{4-[5-(aminocarbonyl)-6-chloro-2-ethyl-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;~~

~~N-[(2-{4-[6-chloro-2-ethyl-5-(methylsulfonyl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl)amino]carbonyl-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide;~~

~~2-{4-[6-chloro-2-ethyl-5-(methylsulfonyl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;~~

~~N-[(2-[4-(2-ethyl-5,7-dimethyl-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-3-yl)phenyl]ethyl)amino]carbonyl-2-thiophenesulfonamide;~~

~~2-[4-(4,6-dimethyl-2-phenyl-1H-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-1-yl)phenyl]ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;~~

~~2-[4-(2-butyl-4,6-dimethyl-1H-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-1-yl)phenyl]ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;~~

~~2-{4-[6-chloro-2-ethyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl (5-chloro-1,3-dimethyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)sulfonylcarbamate;~~

~~2-{4-[4,6-dimethyl-2-(3-phenylpropyl)-1H-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;~~

~~2-{4-[6-chloro-2-(2-pyridinyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;~~

~~(1S)-2-{4-[6-chloro-2-ethyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}-1-methylethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;~~

~~2-[6-[6-chloro-2-ethyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]-3-pyridinyl]ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;~~

~~N-[(2-{4-[6-chloro-2-(1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl)amino]carbonyl-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide;~~

~~N-[(2-{4-[5,7-dimethyl-2-(1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-3-yl]phenyl}ethyl)amino]carbonyl-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide;~~

~~2-[4-[2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-4,6-dimethyl-1H-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-1-yl]phenyl]ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;~~

~~2-[4-{2-[1-(acetylamino)-1-methylethyl]-6-chloro-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl}phenyl]ethyl-(4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;~~  
~~6-chloro-2-ethyl-1-(4-{2-[methyl(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino}ethyl}phenyl)-1*H*-benzimidazole-5-carboxamide; and~~  
salts thereof.

11. (currently amended) A compound according to Claim 1 selected from  
~~6-ethyl-5-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino}ethyl}phenyl)-5*H*-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-*f*]benzimidazole;~~  
~~6-chloro-5-cyano-2-ethyl-1-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino}ethyl}phenyl)-1*H*-benzimidazole;~~  
2-[4-(2-ethyl-5,7-dimethyl-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridin-3-yl)phenyl]-1-methylethyl-(4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;  
5,7-dimethyl-3-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino}ethyl}phenyl)-2-[2-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)ethyl]-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
2-ethyl-5,7-dimethyl-3-(4-{2-[(2-thienyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino}ethyl}phenyl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
3-(4-{2-[(2-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino}ethyl}phenyl)-2-ethyl-5,7-dimethyl-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
2-ethyl-5,6-dimethyl-3-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino}ethyl}phenyl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
5,6-dichloro-2-ethyl-3-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino}ethyl}phenyl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine;  
2-ethyl-4,6-dimethyl-1-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino}ethyl}phenyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]pyridine;  
~~5-methoxy-2-ethyl-3-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino}ethyl}phenyl)benzimidazole;~~  
~~5-acetyl-2-ethyl-3-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino}ethyl}phenyl)benzimidazole;~~  
~~5-cyano-2-ethyl-1-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)amino}ethyl}phenyl)-1*H*-benzimidazole;~~

2-ethyl-5-hydroxy-1-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonylamino]carbonyl}amino)ethyl)phenyl)-1*H*-benzimidazole;  
2-ethyl-4,5-dimethyl-1-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonylamino]carbonyl}amino)ethyl)phenyl)-1*H*-benzimidazole;  
4-(6-chloro-2-ethyl-5-trifluoromethyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl)phenethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate; and  
6-chloro-2-ethyl-1-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonylamino]carbonyl}amino)ethyl)phenyl)-1*H*-benzimidazole-5-carboxamide;  
2-[4-(2-ethyl-4,6-dimethyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]pyridin-1-yl)phenyl]ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;  
2-{4-[5,7-dimethyl-2-(methylamino)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridin-3-yl]phenyl}ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;  
*N*-{[(2-{4-[5,7-dimethyl-2-(methylamino)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridin-3-yl]phenyl}ethyl)amino]carbonyl}-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide;  
*N*-{[(2-{4-[2-ethyl-5-(1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl)amino]carbonyl}-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide;  
2-ethyl-4,6-dimethyl-1-(4-{2-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonylamino]carbonyl}amino)ethyl)phenyl)-1*H*-benzimidazole-5-carboxamide;  
2-{4-[6-chloro-2-ethyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl (2-chlorophenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;  
2-[5-[6-chloro-2-ethyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]-2-pyridinyl]ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;  
2-{4-[6-chloro-2-ethyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl (5-methyl-2-pyridinyl)sulfonylcarbamate;  
2-{4-[6-chloro-2-(1*H*-pyrazol-3-yl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;  
2-{4-[6-chloro-2-(4-pyridinyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;  
2-{4-[5-(aminocarbonyl)-6-chloro-2-ethyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;

~~N-(((2-{4-[6-chloro-2-ethyl-5-(methylsulfonyl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl)amino)carbonyl}-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide;~~  
~~2-{4-[6-chloro-2-ethyl-5-(methylsulfonyl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;~~  
~~N-(((2-{4-(2-ethyl-5,7-dimethyl-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-3-yl)phenyl}ethyl)amino)carbonyl)-2-thiophenesulfonamide;~~  
~~2-[4-(4,6-dimethyl-2-phenyl-1H-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-1-yl)phenyl]ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;~~  
~~2-[4-(2-butyl-4,6-dimethyl-1H-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-1-yl)phenyl]ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;~~  
~~2-{4-[6-chloro-2-ethyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl (5-chloro-1,3-dimethyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)sulfonylcarbamate;~~  
~~2-{4-[4,6-dimethyl-2-(3-phenylpropyl)-1H-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;~~  
~~2-{4-[6-chloro-2-(2-pyridinyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;~~  
~~(1S)-2-{4-[6-chloro-2-ethyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}-1-methylethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;~~  
~~2-{6-[6-chloro-2-ethyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]-3-pyridinyl}ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;~~  
~~N-(((2-{4-[6-chloro-2-(1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl)amino)carbonyl}-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide; and~~  
~~N-(((2-{4-[5,7-dimethyl-2-(1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-3-yl]phenyl}ethyl)amino)carbonyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide;~~  
~~2-{4-[2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-4,6-dimethyl-1H-imidazo[4,5-c]pyridin-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;~~  
~~2-{4-[2-[1-(acetylamino)-1-methylethyl]-6-chloro-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-yl]phenyl}ethyl (4-methylphenyl)sulfonylcarbamate;~~  
~~6-chloro-2-ethyl-1-(4-{2-[methyl(((4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl)amino)carbonyl]amino}ethyl)phenyl)-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxamide; and~~  
~~salts thereof.~~

12. A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of a disorder or condition mediated by prostaglandin in a mammal including a human, which comprises an effective amount of a compound of Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

13. (canceled)

14. A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound of Claim 1, a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and, optionally, one or more other pharmacologically active ingredients.

15. (canceled)

16. (canceled)

17. (new) A compound of formula

2-ethyl-4,6-dimethyl-1-(4-{2-[[{(4-methoxyphenyl)sulfonyl]amino}carboxyl)amino]ethyl}phenyl)-1H-imidazo[4,5-C]pyridine.

18. (new) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of a disorder or condition mediated by prostaglandin in mammal including a human, which comprises an effective amount of a compound of Claim 17, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

19. (new) A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound of Claim 17, a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and optionally, one or more other pharmacologically active ingredients.